MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

6 OCTOBER 1981

Egypt

Abu Ghazalah on AWACS -- In an interview with AFP, Egyptian Defense Minister Abu Ghazalah warned that refusal by the United States to sell AWACS aircraft to Saudi Arabia could have catastrophic consequences for the West. He blamed Israel for the opposition in the United States to the sale and added that if as a result the Saudi oilfields were lost to the West, both the United States and Europe would be destroyed.

Israel

Jerusalem radio said that a U.S. news network broadcast a report on behalf of the Reagan administration that favorably presented the Saudi Arabian role in an incident 2 weeks ago in which an Israeli missile boat strayed into Saudi coastal waters, struck a coral reef and could not be freed for more than 2 days. The radio said that Jerusalem political circles believe that U.S. officials leaked the story to the news media so as to encourage congressional acceptance of the AWACS deal by portraying the Saudis as moderates.

Saudi Arabia

In a speech delivered before the UN General Assembly on 5 October and transmitted textually by SPA, Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz called for an end to UN resolutions condemning the Israeli violation of Palestinian rights -- noting the ineffectiveness of such resolutions -- and for efforts to formulate a single resolution that combines all of the preceding ones that can be considered a framework for a comprehensive and just solution to the problem. The prince offered the peace plan presented by Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz last August as a contribution to the drafting of such a resolution. Prince Sa'ud also expressed concern over the recent announcement of U.S.-Israeli "strategic cooperation," which he said is likely to involve the region in international alliances and throw it into the midst of superpower conflicts, and added that these cooperation arrangements are inconsistent with the U.S. role in finding an impartial solution to the Middle East crisis.

Saudi-Iranian Relations

The Saudi-Iranian controversy over the behavior and treatment of pilgrims has continued with the Iranians staging a demonstration in Mecca. According to Tehran radio's Arabic service, Iranian pilgrims led a "huge march" that included "about 1 million Muslim brothers from all over the world" toward Mecca's holy mosque. The radio said Saudi security forces failed in their attempts to stop the march. Tehran radio said the Iranian marchers carried pictures of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, chanted slogans of the Islamic revolution and were addressed by Iranian Islamic Guidance Minister 'Abdolmajid Ma'adikhah, who told them that the haj pilgrimage involves both religion and politics. However, a Saudi Interior Ministry statement carried by SPA denied the Iranian report completely, asserting that Saudi security forces prevented "an attempted action" by a group of undisciplined Iranian pilgrims. Denying that Muslims from other countries participated in the demonstration, the statement noted that there are less than a million non-Saudi pilgrims in the Kingdom at present, thus refuting Tehran radio's Arabic service report on the size of the march.

Iran

Security Situation -- Citing KEYHAN, AFP reported the execution of 61 Mojahedin and other dissidents at Evin Prison on 5 October. The son of a Tehran clergyman and Majlis deputy was among those executed. Reporting on the entry of government forces into the Kurdish town of Bukan, the clandestine Voice of Iranian Kurdestan radio said that in the wake of fierce fighting the Kurdish rebels had left the town to safeguard the lives of innocent citizens.

Khamene'i Final Vote -- An Interior Ministry spokesman, in remarks broadcast by Tehran radio, disclosed that 'Ali Khamene'i's final margin of victory was 16 million out of 16.8 million votes cast and that Khamene'i would shortly be confirmed as president by the Council of Guardians.

Oil Agreements Abrogated -- Tehran radio reported that the deputy oil minister informed oil consortium representatives in London that Iran has declared null and void all agreements with the consortium signed by the late shah's regime.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Military Situation -- An Iranian Armed Forces communique broadcast by Tehran radio noted further exchanges of fire along a number of fronts and claimed that Iranian antiaircraft fire downed an Iraqi MIG aircraft opposite Basra while Iranian fighters shot down an Iraqi plane near Ahvaz. An Iraqi Armed Forces communique broadcast by Baghdad radio claimed that Iraqi planes shot down an Iranian fighter over Iran's Sar Dasht region.

Iranian Planes in Syria -- According to INA, Iraqi Information Minister Latif Nusayyif Jasim ad-Dulaymi asserted that a number of Iranian planes have for some time been stationed at Syrian airfields for the purpose of striking at Iraqi targets. He said Iraq has irrefutable proof of this Syrian-Iranian special coordination directed against Iraq. However, Damascus radio subsequently reported that Syrian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Faruq ash-Shar' denied the "ridiculous" Iraqi charge, asserting it demonstrates the "hysterical," state of Iraq's officials and that Syria is accustomed to hearing such false accusations from them. In order to disprove the Iraqi allegation, he said, Syria requests an immediate visit by "any Arab political or military committee" to search every Syrian airfield.

PLO

Acquisition of Missiles -- The Amman weekly AKHBAR AL-USBU', citing Palestinian sources in Beirut, said that during PLO Executive Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's 15-day tour to the USSR, Japan, the PRC, the DPRK and the SRV that starts 12 October, 'Arafat will sign an agreement in Moscow whereby the Soviet Union will supply his organization with SAM-6, SAM-9 and long-range missiles. The report said the PRC is also to supply weapons, including missiles.

Reaction to Sharon Plan -- In an interview with the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio, Fatah Central Committee member Majid Abd Sharar said Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon's plan to separate the military and civilian administration of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip illustrates the Israeli Government's inability to find any Palestinian quarter willing to negotiate with it on autonomy and the Camp David accords. Noting recently-announced Israeli plans to establish more settlements in the occupied territory, he said Sharon's plan aims to entrench the Israeli occupation in a new guise. Abu Sharar asserted that the PLO must intensify both the political and military struggle inside the occupied territory, and at the same time protect its base in Lebanon and maintain Palestinian national unity.

YAR

Sana'a' radio reported the return to the YAR and the reception by President Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih of the president of the former Republican Council, al-Qadi 'Abd ar-Rahman Yahya al-Iryani, who had been living in exile and was invited by Salih last September, along with former YAR President 'Abdallah Husayn as-Sallal, to return home.

Reaction to Attack on Pakistan

Karachi radio reported that the Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Pakistani Foreign Ministry and handed a note protesting the violation of Pakistani airspace and the attack on a Baluchistan border post by two DRA MiG's on 4 October. Kabul radio cited a DRA National Defense Ministry spokesman as calling the Pakistani Government reports of the attack "mendacious, fictitious and baseless."

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SPOKESMAN DENIES VIOLATION OF PAKISTANI BORDER

LD051702 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 5 Oct 81

[Text] The DRA Ministry of National Defense has vigorously rejected the mendatious, ficticious and baseless allegations of the Islamabad militarist regime that yesterday two planes of the DRA Air Force crossed the border and fired at a Pakistani border post at Baluchestan.

According to the BAKHTAR Agency, Western and Pakistani news media quoted a statement by the Pakistan Ministry of Defense which claimed yesterday that DRA Air Force planes crossed the border and fired on a Pakistani border unit in Baluchestan.

A spokesman for the DRA Ministry of Defense told the BAKHTAR correspondent that this is not the first time the Islamabad regime has made this kind of mendatious and groundless claim. The regime in Islamabad has alleged border violations by the DRA too many times previously and these have been firmly refuted at the time.

The spokesman said the Islamabad regime has repeated these baseless and empty claims, particularly after the latest proposals of the DRA, in order to avoid giving a clear answer to these proposals and in order to mislead world public opinion, which is awaiting a clear answer from Pakistan to these proposals.

The spokesman added these hostile claims have increased at a time when a series of efforts have been made in the United Nation's to find a peaceful solution to the situation in Afghanistan. This situation has been created as a result of the interference and aggression of imperialist circles, primarily the U.S. criminal imperialism and reactioanry regimes.

The spokesman added that another reason for these claims is to justify U.S. military aid to Pakistan which amounts to over $3 billion. This has endangered peace and security in the region.

The spokesman said Afghanistan is a peace-loving country and desires friendly relations with all countries, in particular with its neighbor countries. The DRA needs peace for the reconstruction of the country and never wants to interfere in the affairs of others or violate the sovereignty of other countries. A clear and obvious evidence of Afghanistan's peace-loving aspirations is the constructive and peace-loving proposals of the DRA Government to organize negotiations of the peaceful solution of issue; this has been welcomed in the world.

It was not, and is not, Afghanistan who interfered in the internal affairs of others of who negates the sovereignty of others; the whole world is ware that at this very moment an undeclared war is being waged against revolutionary Afghanistan by U.S. imperialism, by China, and by Egypt, and with the direct and active cooperation of the Pakistani militarist regime. At this moment, over 80 camps for criminals exist on Pakistani territory for subversion and aggression against the DRA. These criminals are organized and armed by imperialism and infiltrated to Afghanistan.

The recent confession by As-Sadat on the sale of Soviet-made weapons to the U.S. valued at more than $100 million, which the U.S. then transferred to Pakistan for use by the Afghan rebels with the cooperation of General Zia's regime, tore the veils from Zia and Reagan and the world was informed of the extent of the undeclared war unleashed against the DRA.

In conclusion, the spokesman said the DRA Ministry of Defense clearly and resolutely rejects these claims of the Pakistani generals which are nothing more than lies, and points out that the Pakistanis cannot exonerate the participants in imperialist crimes and cannot show them to be innocent.

KHAMENE'I DECLARED NEW IRANIAN PRESIDENT

LD050816 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Oct 81

[Excerpt] Mr Soreddin, political under secretary to the Ministry of Interior, was interviewed by our correspondent. He announced the final results of the presidential elections as follows:

[Begin recording] [Soreddin] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Greetings to the imam and the martyr-nurturing nation; God's blessings to the souls of the martyrs of Islam in the war fronts of God against Saddam's blasphemy; many thanks to sisters and brothers, brothers of the guard, mobilization and the police who helped round-the-clock with the elections. The counting of votes has finished except for a few polling centers abroad. The presidential election inside the country is now complete; Tehran's votes have been checked and basically all votes inside and outside the country have been checked and counted. The results are as follows:

Total number of votes:	16,846,996
Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i	16,007,972
Seyyed Akbar Parvaresh	341,841
Hasan Ghafuri	78,658
Zavareh'i	62,156
Invalid votes	356,369

[Question] So Mr Khamene'i has been elected as the third president of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Is that final?

[Answer] Yes, he has a decisive majority of votes and today he will be introduced to the Council of Guardians by the Ministry of Interior for confirmation.

PARS REPORTS CBS INTERVIEW WITH MUSAVI

LD060934 Tehran PARS in English 0800 GMT 6 Oct 81

[Text] New York, 5 Oct (PARS NEWS AGENCY) -- Mr Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, the foreign minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, currently in New York to take part in the U.N. General Assembly's 36th session was interviewed by the CBS television network in which he explained the revolutionary movements in Egypt and the crimes of U.S. imperialism.

First, the CBS correspondent commented: "The West lacks a clear understanding about the situation in Iran and believes that there is insecurity, terror and confusion in Iran."

In response, the foreign minister said: "This belief of the West stems from the overall attacks of the mass media influenced by imperialism. You should consider the emotions of our country based on the presence of millions of suffering people on the scene. That is the feeling of complete unity."

Parts of the interview included the following:

CBS: "Reports on events in Iran reach us only through Iran and the PARS NEWS AGENCY, that is, from you yourself. There aren't many foreign reporters in Iran to give us news."

Musavi: "Mere reporting without any precise understanding and interpretation of these events is useless. In the world today, millions of people dominated by the superpowers are being martyred or die of hunger. The problem is, how do we interpret these realities? I ask you, is the American nation aware of the fact that the Iranian nation is ready to offer every sacrifice for their revolution? Do they know what happens in the streets of Iran... that politically aware people are ready to offer their lives for the revolution? Do they know that we have lost about 100 of our statesmen in the last few months, which would have destroyed any other country? But Iran is still standing united and firm in the face of all these problems....

CBS: You said before that differences in Iran are caused by the imperialists and the superpowers. It's been years now since the U.S. has had any hand in the affairs of Iran. The people who kill now in Iran and are being killed themselves as political dissidents are all Iranians. Is this not a sign of a divided Iran? "Will this Iran be a model for future revolution?"

Musavi: "You portray the mechanism of superpower intervention as being very straightforward ...intervention as direct military intervention. We felt that in the U.S.'s Tabas military intervention. The questions are where do the people who are against our country get their resources and support from? Who portrays them as main force and who censors the news of their massacres? Who covers up all their acts and instead ballyhoos their punishments? [What] we want to say, is precisely related to this."

CBS: "What do you say on the existence of a civil war in the country?

Musavi: "The most important answer to clear this up is the fact that more than 15 million people have voted for Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i. Also the fact that the people take such an interest in political matters."

Speaking about American people, Musavi said: They would make deep change in their elections and administration if they knew that their government causes the hunger, poverty and sufferings of millions of people. I am sure that no American condones the killing of old women, children and ordinary people in the world by their bombs. I am positive that no American wishes that the deprived people of the world to be downtrodden by the American system.

ENVOY IN KUWAIT BLAMES U.S. FOR ATTACK

LD051008 Tehran PARS in English 0905 GMT 5 Oct 81

[Text] Tehran, 5 Oct (PARS NEWS AGENCY) -- Following the bombardment of the Kuwaiti oil installations, representatives of a workers union in Kuwait called on the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran and met and conferred with the Iranian ambassador, 'Ali Shams Ardakani, on Sunday morning. The Iranian ambassador during this meeting described the aims and plans of U.S. imperialism and its agents in the region. He categorically denied that Iran was in any way involved or responsible for this incident. Dr Shams Ardakani, stressing the absolute respect the Islamic Republic of Iran showed for the sovereignty of its neighbours and for the official Kuwaiti frontiers, said that these attacks was [as received] being staged by those who do not recognise the official frontiers of Kuwait. Referring to the statements of the U.S. State Department and Defence Department concerning the alleged detection by AWACS in Saudi Arabia the Iranian ambassador said this indicated that the plan was a U.S. inspired one.

Dr Shams said that the U.S. staged this attack on Kuwait in order to reassure Zionists that the AWACS did not threaten the regime occupying Al-Quds but insured the protection of the common interests of U.S. and the regime occupying Al-Quds in the region. The United States wanted to portray the Islamic Republic of Iran as an aggressor threatening oil fields in the region. He added the U.S. also intended to punish Kuwait for its independent oil policy and to force it, like certain other OPEC members, to flood the world markets in oil. Shams Ardakani then said that those who violated Kuwait's sovereignty should be punished and should respect the borders of Kuwait. He said protecting the national integrity of Kuwait in effect also entailed securing the Iranian borders. Iranian ambassador concluded by asking the representatives of the Kuwait's workers to tell their Kuwaiti brothers that the Islamic Republic of Iran would not accept any aggression against Kuwait territory and reiterated that Iran never had any intention of invading Kuwait.

TEHRAN LINKS KUWAIT ATTACK TO AWACS DEBATE

GF031405 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1122 GMT 3 Oct 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The Iraqi nuclear reactor was the price of a Zionist-imperialist-Ba'thist plot that [words indistinct] Saddam's regime and his collapsing regime. Kuwait has been chosen as a scapegoat to be slaughtered in a new plot in the chain of plots by which U.S. imperialism is seeking to rescue the Baghdad regime from its present situation and from the impasse it has reached as a result of the successive defeats inflicted on it by the heroes of Islam.

It was announced in Kuwait 2 days ago that aircraft of the Islamic Republic's Air Force had bombed and damaged some Kuwaiti oil installations.

So that the Muslim masses throughout the Islamic homeland may become aware of the new conspiracy, we must return briefly to the past and probe into some of the suspect moves that accompanied Saddam's aggression against the Islamic Republic of Iran. From the very first days of the aggression, U.S. imperialism and the Western countries tried to expand their influence in the region and to support their forces on the pretext of protecting the region's security and Western influences against the threat of the expansion of the Persian Gulf war.

However, the Islamic revolution and its wise leadership foiled these forces when the Islamic Republic declared that it would contain the war, only repulse the aggressor and protect the oil routes. However, U.S. imperialism was serious in finding pretexts to intervene in the region. A few months ago, an announcement was made on the alleged attacks by the Islamic Republic's Air Force on the Al-'Abdali region in Kuwait. It was claimed that one of the Islamic Republic's planes had been downed in Kuwaiti territorial waters. As usual, those who are responsible for such tricks were disappointed and thwarted when foreign correspondents declared that the plane was Iraqi and not Iranian.

The report on the alleged attack on Kuwaiti oil installations by the Islamic Republic's aircraft is in line with the hostile policy that is being directed against our blessed revolution. This claim coincides with three major events in the region:

1. The great defeat inflicted on the aggressor Saddam's forces east of the Karun River and the heavy losses in men and materiel sustained by his forces.

2. The U.S. Congressional debate on the U.S. arms contract with Saudi Arabia, which includes the AWACS planes.

3. British Prime Minister Thatcher's visit to the Persian Gulf region, including Kuwait.

These three events open the way for those who want to know more about the background of this new plot. With regard to the first event, following the lifting of the siege on Abadan and the collapse of the aggressor forces, the United States and the Western countries have realized that this victory is the beginning of the countdown for the end of Saddam's regime -- and thus a new Islamic conquest in the region -- and that it is a blow to U.S. and Western interests in the region. Therefore, the imperialist countries are seeking to drag Kuwait and other area countries into the war. This will expand the war and thus open the way for imperialist intervention in the region. It will allow them to confront the Islamic victory, whose signs have begun to appear following the victory in the Abadan sector on 27 September.

The second event, which is closely linked with the bombing of Kuwaiti oil installations, is the U.S. Congressional debate on the AWACS sale to Saudi Arabia. Despite all the guarantees and assurances given to the U.S. Congress by the U.S. Government that these planes do not pose any threat to the Zionist entity's security, the Zionist movement that dominates the U.S. Congress is still opposing this deal.

In order to support the U.S. Government's stand that the AWACS deal will protect U.S. oil interests in the region, U.S. Secretary of State Haig made a statement in which he announced that the U.S. AWACS planes in Saudi Arabia monitored the actions of the Iranian planes that attacked the Kuwaiti oil installations.

With regard to British Prime Minister Thatcher's visit to the Persian Gulf, she sought to tie the countries of the region to the bandwagon of international imperialism.

The reports on the alleged Iranian attacks on Kuwaiti oil installations are aimed at exerting pressure on the governments of the region and pushing them into the lap of the imperialist forces by pointing to the illusory threat from Iran.

However, we stress -- just as the Islamic Republic has stressed in the past -- that our Islamic state is very anxious to preserve the unity and safety of neighboring countries. We also call on area countries, and particularly the fraternal state of Kuwait, not to become embroiled in this new imperialist plot and to preserve the brotherly relations that bind the fraternal Iranian and Kuwaiti peoples.

NVOI ON SALE OF U.S. WEAPONS TO SAUDI ARABIA

TA051252 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 3 Oct 81

[Unattributed commentary: "The Aim of U.S. Military Adventures in Our Region"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: The delegations of the member countries of the United Nations, in its latest session, devoted particular attention to normalizing the situation in the Persian Gulf. It is in particular in this region that the United States has escalated its militaristic policy and has increased military forces in an unprecedented manner, thus rendering the tense situation in this region more tense.

The United States does not end its activity only with stepping up its military presence in the Persian Gulf region. The Americans are endeavoring to concoct a so-called defense pact, under their leadership and with the participation of Saudi Arabia and Oman, and later they will include Britain as well in this military grouping.

The United States, by frightening the littoral countries of the Persian Gulf of the imaginary and mythical danger from the north, or more precisely from the Soviet Union, intends to increase the sale of sophisticated military hardware to the countries of this region. In this connection it is exploiting the political, military and economic dependence of these countries on the United States.

In implementing its hegemonistic policy, the United States above all relies on the Saudi regime. On the basis of a secret agreement between the United States and the Saudi regime, Western newspapers report that in accordance with this agreement Washington has decided to place about $8-billion worth of sophisticated war materiel at the disposal of Riyadh. One can observe among the aforementioned war materiel several planes of the AWACS type -- which can place under surveillance the airspace of the entire Persian Gulf, including our country -- and also a large number of air-to-air missiles and other military equipment and weapons. The noteworthy thing is that the handling and maintenance of these planes will be done entirely by U.S. experts, and all the information gathered by the electronic radar systems of these planes will be put at the disposal of the CIA. Moreover, along with war materiel and military hardware, a large group of military experts and advisers, in addition to the 7,000 military advisers already at work in Saudi Arabia, will be dispatched to this country. As a result of which the number of Americans residing in Saudi Arabia will reach 50,000, thus controlling in their hands all of the country's military and economic affairs, especially its oil industries.

The United States is implementing the policy of militarizing the Persian Gulf through Saudi Arabia. The aim of the United States is to transform Saudi Arabia into its reliable base in the Persian Gulf region.

Riyadh has deposited more than $60 billion of its petrodollars in American banks, and by using these same currency reserves, American bankers constantly manufacture new deadly weapons. There is no greater treason than this that on the one hand the leaders of Saudi Arabia are trying to portray themselves as the supporters of the Palestinian people and the opponents of the aggressor Israel, and on the other hand are assisting U.S. bankers and owners of large industrial military complexes in producing new war materiel, most of which is used by the United States against the Palestinian people and the Arabs themselves through Israel.

In addition, currently the United States is attempting to participate and involve its NATO allies as well in the dangerous task of militarizing the Persian Gulf region. In this connection the conservative Thatcher government is fulfilling an active role. As we are aware, British Prime Minister Thatcher visited Kuwait and Bahrain some time ago. Her aim was the delivery and sale of arms to these countries and encouraging them to (?enter) into the orbit of the militarization and the dangerous military adventures of the United States in our region.

In addition, Pakistan is playing a treacherous role in the escalation of tensions in the Near East and South Asia. In return for the receipt of more than $3 billion from the United States for the purchase of U.S. arms, Ziaul Haq's military regime has placed the territory of Pakistan at the disposal of the Pentagon for the establishment of military bases. The United States' military bases in Pakistan have not only seriously threatened India's security and independence, but also the security of Democratic Afghanistan and our Islamic Republic. In particular, our revolutionary nation and our homeland's government figures and officials must not and cannot be indifferent toward Ziaul Haq's treacherous policy and the United States' military bases on Pakistani territory.

The concentration of massive U.S. naval forces in the vicinity of the Persian Gulf and the extension and expansion of U.S. military bases around it have only one aim: crushing the anti-imperialist and anti-American movements of the nations of the region, implementing plots against our Islamic Republic, and gaining control over the oil resources of the nations of this area. The consistent and united struggle of all nations and true revolutionary forces and the realistic identification of the friends and foes of the freedom of the nations of our region can thwart all the adventurous plans of the United States.

IRANIAN PILGRIMS STAGE MARCH IN MECCA 4 OCT

GF051246 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 5 Oct 81

[Text] Iranian pilgrims and pilgrims from other Muslim countries staged a huge march yesterday in the yard of mosques in Mecca. The march -- in which about 1 million Muslim brothers from all over the world participated -- headed for the holy mosque. The procession was many kilometers long. At the head of the enormous Muslim march were disabled people of the Islamic revolution. The participation of Muslim brother pilgrims from Kuwait, Pakistan, Turkey, Indonesia and other [as heard] African countries was noticeable.

Kuwaiti Muslims who participated in the March carried Arabic-language slogans condemning the aggression by the United States and its agents against Kuwait and affirmed their support for Iran and the Islamic Revolution.

Participants chanted slogans against the United States, the Muslims' No 1 enemy. They chanted "Death to Israel," "God is great" and "There is no god but God."

Saudi police and security personnel halted the march at various points near Mecca, but the roar of the Muslim march and the unity of world Muslims prevented them from stopping it. The participants continued their march until they reached the holy mosque.

GUIDANCE MINISTER ON SAUDI TREATMENT OF PILGRIMS

GF051240 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 5 Oct 81

[Text] Following his arrival in Mecca yesterday, Islamic Guidance Minister Ma'adikhah made a statement to PARS on Iran's view toward the problems Iranian pilgrims are facing and the difficulties created for them by the Saudi Government.

Asked his opinion on the Saudi Government's political stand, he said he believed this stand is not in line with the stand of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Any decision in this regard is the concern of the Foreign Ministry.

On the Saudi officials' behavior and treatment of Iranian pilgrims, the Islamic guidance minister said: Naturally, the nature of this behavior and treatment cannot be separated from the influence of Saudi Arabia's political stand. Saudi Arabia's treatment of Iranian visitors to the holy mosque was not as it should be. I have to say that they practiced harassment, even more than we expected. This issue requires thorough study.

The minister added: Saudi officials -- since the key to the holy mosque is in their hands -- imagine that all Muslims have to imitate them and succumb to them. However, this is a meaningless expectation. If we want to travel to the Hijaz at other times rather than on the pilgrimage occasion, we will be ruled by international regulations. However, it is now the pilgrimage occasion and the pilgrimage issue cannot be governed by narrow international regulations because Al=Ka'abah -- as is clearly stated in the Koran -- is for all Muslims, even if the worst relations exist between us and Saudi Arabia. Saudi officials affirm that pilgrimage is an occasion of humility worship only and they confine it to this meaning. As for us, while we preserve the sanctity of worship at all times, we believe it is not the duty of all Muslims to think and believe in the same way Saudi officials think and believe. We consider the sanctity of the pilgrimage an erupting volcano against world imperialism which will lead to the death of the United States and the Zionist entity. We also believe that if Muslims perform a reasonable and proper pilgrimage, the Zionist entity will perish and will not have any presence. If Muslims perform the pilgrimage in the way that satisfies the prophet, the disgrace to Muslims as a result of the Zionist occupation of dear Jerusalem will be removed.

The Islamic guidance minister continued: Since pilgrimage is not a place for argument and dispute, as stated by the Koran, this issue must be followed up and resolved after the pilgrimage.

In conclusion, the Islamic guidance minister expressed hope that Muslims will guard against becoming tools in imperialist hands and make maximum use of the pilgrimage and its rituals.

RAFSANJANI ADDRESSES 5 OCT MAJLIS SESSION

LD051234 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Oct 81

[Excerpts] In today's Majlis session Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani delivered a speech in which he praised the Muslim, revolutionary and patient Iranian nation for its overwhelming participation in the presidential and Majlis elections which pleased world Muslims, particularly the imam of the nation and the country's authorities.

In the extraordinary free climate prevalent in the last 2 years, everyone has had the freedom to say anything he wished to say. There is nothing left unsaid. Thank God, we have nothing to hide from the people. Despite all the recent propaganda concerning the arrest and execution of counterrevolutionaries, which is gaining great momentum, the people cast their votes. However, if the inwardly blind individuals still persist in claiming that the people do not support this government or make utterances about such things as the silent majority and some such excuses, this is like denying that the sun exists.

Another issue which emerged this week was the impressive activities by our Muslim students throughout the world. This is an issue which is both attractive and expressive. As you know, despite all the pressures exerted by agents of imperialism and America's lackeys, our brothers and sisters are engaged in a confrontation against counterrevolutionaries in India, the Philippines, America, France, Britain and many other places, trying to export and introduce our revolution without expecting any reward.

In Paris, international criminals have created havoc in the Muslim students center and have broken the students' ranks. In Mecca, several people have been arrested, and the ranks of Islamic fighters have been attacked. In America, a great many people have been wounded and arrested. The police have also treated them very violently. As for Britain, viciousness is unsurpassed, while in the Philippines, we are witnessing the trial of a number of students. In India, Iraqi agents and official embassy staff opened fire on our brothers and sisters. However, these beloved young people are fulfilling their national, popular and Islamic duties most sincerely and with utmost selflessness. We praise these people and hope that God will protect them.

The Majlis speaker then recalled certain points raised by a few deputies and then read a letter by some deputies on the absences in yesterday's session which resulted in the lack of a quorum. In this letter the deputies strongly condemned the absences, calling for a severe warning.

DETAILS OF 5 OCT CABINET SESSION REPORTED

LD051854 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 Oct 81

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that the Cabinet of the Islamic Republic of Iran met this evening under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Mahdavi-Kani. The session began with recitations from the holy Koran. Members of the Cabinet were then briefed on the social and political reports, and on the latest domestic and foreign developments.

The interior minister provided the necessary explanations regarding the rebuilding of the liberated city of Bukan and the repairs to the damage caused by the barbaric action of the counterrevolution in this region. The Cabinet then discussed how the region should be redeveloped and rebuilt, and the necessary decisions in this regard were taken.

At this session, the minister of labor and social affairs provided explanations concerning the problems relating to housing loans payment to workers, and offered certain proposals to the Cabinet to overcome the existing problems. Final decisions on the matter were postponed for further discussion at future sessions. The minister of energy also gave a detailed report to the Cabinet regarding the capacity of power stations, the need for conservation of electricity, and the proper method of using water and electricity.

Following the Cabinet session today, the Technical and Finance and Economics Committees held sessions.

RAJAVI DENIES PLANS TO FORM GOVERNMENT-IN-EXILE

NC031355 Paris AFP in English 1349 GMT 3 Oct 81

[Text] Paris, 3 Oct (AFP) -- Mas'ud Rajavi, leader of the Iranian opposition group People's Mojahedin, said today he has no plans to form a government in exile on French territory with ex-Iranian President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr.

The French Government reminded the pair of their pledge to limit political activity while in France after they issued a communique announcing their intention to form a provisional Iranian government soon.

"It is not right to say we want a government in exile in France," Mr Rajavi said. "We have never had the intention, and we have no need, at the moment, to create a government outside Iran."

He said he did not believe that Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni's "reactionary regime" in Tehran could hold on to power much longer.

"That is why I limited myself to making public the National Resistance Council's programme and that of a future provisional government," he added.

Mr Rajavi and Mr Bani-Sadr arrived in France on July 29.

MATERIALS ON INTERNAL OPPOSITION, EXECUTIONS

23 Gendarmes Killed

LD051202 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Oct 81

[Text] Following the martyrdom of 23 of the brave gendarmerie personnel of Iranshahr, who were killed in a confrontation with an armed gang of smugglers near Iranshahr on last Wednesday, the Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in a statement, expressed its condolences on the martyrdom of the brave gendarmerie personnel in Iranshahr to the imam of the nation and the champion nation of Iran.

In a part of this statement it said: The death merchants, by killing 23 gendarmerie personnel, intend to stop the gendarmerie from carrying out their mission. The [words indistinct] more determined than before, will stop the activities of these (?blood-thirsty) criminals and will clean the country from their filthy presence. [passage indistinct]

Evin Prison Executions

NC051241 Paris AFP in English 1219 GMT 5 Oct 81

[Excerpt] Tehran, 5 Oct (AFP) -- Sixty-one people, eight of them women, were executed today at the Evin Prison in Tehran, the daily newspaper KEYHAN reported, quoting a bulletin from the Iranian revolutionary prosecutor's office.

Among the capital charges against them were "rebellion against the Islamic Republic", the murder of Islamic clergymen, members of the government, and "supporters of the Islamic revolution", attacks on Islamic revolutionary guards, armed robbery, and the illegal possession of weapons and handgrenades.

The 61 were described as being either opposition sympathisers or "hypocrites", the official term for the leftwing Mojahedin-e Khalo movement.

One of them was Mohammad Kazen Golzadeh-Ghafuri, the son of a Tehran clergyman and member of Parliament who has been a frequent absentee from recent sittings of the house and whose second son was executed on September 18 for taking part in armed attacks.

School Principal Assassinated

GF051211 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1900 GMT 4 Oct 81

[Excerpts] Hajj Ebrahim Sharafatian, the principal of Razi School, was assassinated at 0745 today on his way to the school. The counterrevolution opened fire at him in front of the school. The assassins, who were armed with handguns, following their inauspicious action managed to escape on motorcycles. The principal was admitted to the hospital. Despite all the efforts of the doctors, he could not be saved and martyrdom was bestowed upon him.

Sarvestan Citizens Warned

GF051210 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1900 GMT 4 Oct 81

[Text] The Sarvestan Islamic Revolution Guards Corps in a communique has asked citizens of the region not to accept the hypocrites' subversive literature posted to them under the guise of writings of Shari'ati. The communique adds that with God's help the hypocrites will be punished for their deeds.

Clashes in Baluchestan

GF051615 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 5 Oct 81

[Text] On Saturday, 3 October, a very serious clash took place between the zealous men of Baluchestan and the anti-Iranian mullah regime's mercenary guards in the (Khash) and Zahedan region. In the armed clash 31 guards and agents of the regime were killed and over 50 were wounded. The combatant and freedom-seeking Baluchi brothers also lost six martyrs.

Kurdish Radio on Clashes

JN051457 (Clandestine) Voice of Iranian Kordestan in Surani Kurdish 1330 GMT 4 Oct 81

[Text] Bukan -- The correspondent of the Voice of Iranian Kordestan in Bukan reports that, in the wake of the fierce battles which the peshmerga, popular resistance and honest residents in the region waged against the army, guards and agent mercenaries supported by mortars, tanks and helicopters, the peshmerga left the town to safeguard the lives of the innocent citizens.

At 1000 yesterday, enemy forces supported by mortars, tanks and helicopters entered the town and began an indiscriminate shelling of the villages on the town's outskirts. The regime's propaganda organs began to spread lies to deceive the people without referring to the number of guards and soldiers who fell on the battlefield.

The correspondent adds that, at 1200, the peshmerga intercepted eight enemy vehicles in the village of (Bashband) and killed or wounded more than 80 of the enemy forces. Unfortunately, one of the peshmerga fighters from Mahabad was martyred when he fell out of the vehicle.

PARS CITES ARMED FORCES COMMUNIQUE 658

LD061010 Tehran PARS in English 0739 GMT 6 Oct 81

[Text] Tehran, 5 Oct (PARS NEWS AGENCY) -- The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran released communique No 658 stating that during the preceding 24 hours, the Islamic combatants, while killing a group of Iraqi aggressors, successfully demolished several group bunkers and dug-outs, several mortar launching positions and vehicles of the enemy forces in the southern and western battlefronts, and also neutralised a number of anti-tank and anti-personnel mines.

To the west of Dezful: The Islamic forces of Iran destroyed 3 tanks, two 122-mm mortar launchers, and one munitions depot of the enemy and killed at least 35 enemy soldiers. Meanwhile, (?a dispatched) Iranian patrol team succeeded in neutralising a number of anti-tank and anti-personnel mines.

In the 'Eyn Khosh and Dasht-e Abbas regions: The Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran destroyed one 105-mm artillery piece, two tanks, three vehicles and four group bunkers of the enemy together with their personnel.

In Ahvaz: Exchanges of artillery fire continued between the warring parties and the Iranian forces inflicted casualties upon the enemy while silencing the artillery fire on the enemy.

The aggressors (?struck at) residential areas of Ahvaz with their long-range artillery and barraged Abadan with heavy weapons fire which inflicted loss of life and damage.

The combatant personnel of the Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran set ablaze one rallying point of the enemy in the entrance to Al-Faw port and inflicted damages on one mortar launching position, killing 15 enemy troops. Furthermore, the fire of the Iranian forces, smashed two artillery [word indistinct], two vehicles carrying munitions and one concentration bunker of the enemy. During these operations, Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded.

In the west of the country: The combatants of Islam halted the activities of the enemy army in the (Haji Omran) and (Shivehrash) regions, by opening artillery and mortar fire on the Iraqi positions and during these operations, one 106-mm gun, one tank and several mortar launchers of the enemy were demolished and their crews were killed or wounded. In the 24 hours preceding the release of this communique, a few Iraqi planes violated the airspace of the warfronts in the southern and western parts of the country, which were forced to flee by the anti-aircraft defences without accomplishing anything.

ARMED FORCES COMMUNIQUE 659 ON FIGHTING

LD051728 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 Oct 81

[Communique 659 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. This is to inform the Muslim (community) and martyr-nurturing nation of Iran of developments on the battlefronts in the past 24 hours. Several invading Iraqi aircraft intruded into the airspace of our country's northwestern and southwestern towns, but with the timely and sustained fire of the air defense units of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran they were forced to flee before they were able to carry out any of their foul intentions. In these defense operations one of the Saddam forces' MiG aircraft was hit by the antiaircraft fire of the ever-alert combatants of the army of Islam. It crashed to the ground in the vicinity of Basra.

Our brave combatants on the Marivan front opened artillery fire on the military vehicles of the misled forces of Saddam in the (Senam) and Kharmal regions, inside Iraqi territory, and inflicted substantial losses on the enemy's motorized columns, preventing them from making any movement. An ammunition dump belonging to the Saddamists also caught fire in the same area. In the operational sector in Dasht-e 'Abbas and 'Eyn Khosh battle-seeking units of the army of Islam, while defending their own positions, opened artillery fire on enemy positions and destroyed two tanks, three vehicles and one loader, killing a number of Saddam's forces.

Continual exchanges of fire between the two sides are in progress on the Meymak highlands and on the Shur-e Shirin, Susangerd, Dezful, Ahvaz and Khorramshahr fronts, with our own forces enjoying superior firepower. On the Khorramshahr front, artillery shelling has inflicted substantial losses and casualties on the Iraqi Army.

The self-sacrificing pilots of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran bombed Saddamists' positions and war equipment in the Khorramshahr region and inflicted substantial losses and casualties on enemy forces.

On 3 October, 21 of the warriors belonging to the Ground Froces and 2 from the Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran drank from the sweet cup of martyrdom and hastened to the land of eternity. May their immaculate souls be very happy and their goal be our inspiration.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran has also announced that at 1133 today two invading Iraqi aircraft appeared over Ahvaz and were immediately chased off by the fighter aircraft of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran; one of them was shot down.

PARS REPORTS ON TRADE ACCORD WITH ROMANIA

LD041048 Tehran PARS in English 0809 GMT 4 Oct 81

[Text] Tehran, 3 Oct (PARS) -- Minister of state and head of the Plan and Budget Organisation, Mr Banki, announced the details of an agreement made between Iran and Romania. Mr Banki said that according to this agreement, Iran would export 70 million dollars of non-oil products to Romania and this country would purchase at least 4 million tons of crude oil based on the approved prices of OPEC. Mr Banki who was speaking at a news conference said the two countries have signed an economic protocol and have agreed to study the proposals in the protocol and present the result after two months, at the latest, and conclude the agreement.

Banki said that Romania had been committed to deal only with the Iranian Government without contacting any private commercial sector in Iran. "The two governments have agreed to settle a portion of the agreements by making 50 percent of the payments in foreign currency agreed by the two governments."

He added that in the agricultural and fishery fields some agreements were made to build 45 fishery ports, to buy ships and freezing tunnels. "In the industrial field, the two parties reached some results in medicine, petrochemicals, chemicals, paper, cellulose, textiles and building material industries, the minister said. He further added that the Iranian delegation had expressed its willingness to purchase 75,000 tractors from Romania and the final agreement was almost concluded. Talks with the Romanian economic delegation also included plans for hydro-electrical power, water distribution and necessary equipment for electricity distribution. In the field of transportation Iran will purchase 50 locomotives and 30 more units will be rented from Romania, Banki said. "In talks concerning oil, natural gas, and petrochemical industries Romania has proposed to rebuild the Iranian oil refineries and in addition it has agreed to have cooperation with Iran in producing, refining and exploiting oil. It was also agreed that Iran will send 30,000 barrels of oil daily to Romania for refining," Banki said.